













## LITERARY.

## APPEAL TO THE FRIENDS OF HUMANITY.

Is this the home of liberty?  
Is this the land of equal rights?  
Is this the birthplace of the free,  
Where Peace has reared her beauteous light?  
Where Freedom's torch so long has shined,  
Ever on the banners flying in the wind?  
Weep! that the slave is doomed to toil,  
Unpaid to cultivate his soil.  
Weep! Freedom! for those alien slaves,  
With human blood around them;  
Weep! that the soul has thus profaned,  
That rights for which fathers bled,  
That laurels, which the brave have won,  
Have, by their sons, been trampled on;  
That justice back to heaven has flown,  
And tyranny usurped her throne.  
My country! thou hast heard the call—  
Then wise away no soul a stain;  
We ask the slaves' release from thrall,  
And shall we ask that boon in vain?  
Oh, for the ranks who yield to wrong;  
Who bow, the weak before the strong;  
For us, whom let it be "dear deferred,"  
We ask—and may our prayers be heard.

Oh, man! 'tis thine a heart to store!  
Hast thou no pity for the poor?  
Wouldst thou the wretched leave alone,  
Or drive the wanderer from his door?  
Thou seest thy brother in distress,  
And thou canst make his suffering less,  
Thou seest him in bondage sold,  
And with thou, then, relief withhold?  
What! rights and goods he has so dear,  
What! listen to the voice of woe,  
And still thy spirit rest unsore?  
Ah, no! for mercy shall prevail.  
Thou canst not always leave the woe—  
Thou wilt own 'neath thy dark and gloom;  
And as thy faltering heart is torn,  
Thyself shalt own the sentence just.

Art thou a father! hast thou seen  
Thy children from their turn away?  
Or hast thou known that they have been  
To cruel wrong a helpless prey?  
Art thou a mother! hast thou felt  
Thy infant from his bosom torn?  
Hast thou before thy oppressor knelt—  
Brought—and still been left to mourn?

If so, then hast thou felt the wrong  
That Afric's race have borne too long?  
If so, then hast thou felt one dart  
Of proud oppression in thy heart.

Art thou a sister! hast thou seen  
Thy brother chained before thee eyes?  
Torn from his bosom thus, have been,  
And heard his spirit-rending cries?  
Then hast thou felt severest woe,  
Amongst those doomed to know,  
But vain 'st thou attempt thus to unfold  
What has been felt, but never told!

Hast thou a brother doomed to dwell  
In hopeless bondage years to come,  
Thy infant from his bosom torn?  
At such a thought—of such a doom?  
Say, wouldst thou then at rest remain,  
Nor strive thy brother to regain?  
Say, wouldst thou sit in silence then,  
And stay thy tongue as well as pen?

No! thou wouldst then devoted be—  
Thy hand, thy heart, would both be given;  
No dangers wouldst thou then foresee,  
Till all thy fetters had been riven;  
Then, would thy gold seem dross indeed,  
Until thy brother should be freed;  
For oh! his life would dearer be  
Than all thy treasured stores of gold.

Then, fathers, mothers, sisters—rise!  
Though you are free, all are not so!  
The slave in cruel bondage lies,  
The helpless child of grief and woe!  
He needs life's thorns, pain, sorrow,  
Oppressed, degraded and unknown!  
Up!—let us not retreat in vain!  
Up!—ere too late, and break the chain!

What thought it be not in your power,  
The pale hue of Europe's race  
God's image should our friendship share!  
The skin cannot the mind deface.  
If you your cruel fate deplore,  
Up! and your dearest rights restore!  
Full well you know what freedom is—  
The slave as highly prizes his.

Country, R. I. VALENTINE.

## THANKSGIVING.

Written for the annual meeting of a Female Anti-Slavery Society, by a young lady.

Give God the praise! with hearts sincere,  
We once again have met;  
Give God the praise! the closing year  
Finds us firm, faithful yet.

Give God the praise! that in the fight  
We've fearlessly contended;  
Give God the praise! that we the right  
To freedom have defended.

Praise, thank, adore him! he has lent  
A kind attentive ear,  
Where'er in earnest prayer we're bent,  
Our smallest wish to hear.

Praise him that the avenging rod  
He hath in mercy spared;  
Oh, ever may we to our God  
Give praise continually!

And, full, off, approach in prayer  
Our contrition to declare;  
And gather strength and courage there,  
The coming strife to meet.

But one more deed of sin and wrong  
Our contrition to declare;  
Let Texas in their ranks now throng,  
And ruin will ensue.

Then we will 'neath their idols all,  
The work of their own hands call;  
They cannot save them from their fall,  
Nor Avarice's vain demand.

The Constitution vain will be—  
To shroud it will be torn;  
The Union! worshiped Deity,  
All nations taunt and scorn.

Their naves, torn, in which they trust,  
Weak as the chaff will prove;  
Their Charter, Union, Navy, must  
Yield to a God above.

Columbia! ah, say, must thou  
Thus early find a grave,  
Ere manhood's written on thy brow?  
And is there naught can save?

Ty eagle, too, must be soiled  
With blood and gore and stain;  
His eagle leave in fear!  
Celestial bird, with piercing ken,  
Thou wilt no longer hover  
O'er oppressive, cruel men,  
Their wicked deeds to cover.

Equality of Mankind.  
Eternal Nature! when thy giant hand  
Had heaved the floods, and set the trembling land,  
When life sprang starting at the plastic call,  
Endless her form, and Man the lord of all,  
Say, was that lordly form inspired by thee  
To wear eternal chains, and bow the knee?  
Was man created the slave of man to toil,  
Yoked with the brute, and fettered to the soil?  
Weigh'd in a tyrant's balance with his gold?  
No! Nature stamp'd us in a heavenly mould;  
She bade us stretch our thankless laboring arms,  
Nor, trembling, take the plow and the sower;  
Whomless Luthien, on the sunny deep,  
To call upon his country's name as we!

Pleasures of Hope.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## TEXAS.

Extract from Dr. Channing's Letter to Mr. Clay.

Having considered the motives of the revolution, I proceed to inquire, how was it accomplished? The answer to this question will show more fully the criminality of the enterprise. 'The Texas,' we have seen, were a few thousands, an unfit sovereignty as one of our towns; and, if left to themselves, must have utterly desisted of achieving independence. They looked abroad; and to whom did they look? To any foreign state? To the government under which they had formerly lived? No; their whole reliance was placed on some individuals in a neighboring republic at peace with Mexico. They looked wholly to private individuals, to citizens of this country, to such among us, as, defying the laws of the land, and hungry for sudden gain, should be lured by the scent of this mighty prey, and should be ready to stain their hands with blood for spoil. They held out a country as a prize to the reckless, lawless, daring, avaricious, and trusted to the excitements of intoxicated imagination and insatiable cupidity, to supply them with partners in their scheme of violence.

By whom has Texas been conquered? By the colonists? By the hands which raised the standard of revolt? By foreign governments espousing their cause? No; it has been conquered by your and my countrymen, by citizens of the United States, in violation of our laws and of the laws of nations. We, who have filled the ranks which have wrested Texas from Mexico. In the army of eight thousand men who won the victory which scattered the Mexican force, and made its chief a prisoner, 'not more than fifty were citizens of Texas having grievances of their own to seek relief from, on that field.' The Texans in this warfare are little more than a name, a cover, under which selfish adventurers from another country have prosecuted their work of plunder.

Some crimes, by their magnitude, have a touch of the sublime; and to this dignity the seizure of Texas by our citizens is entitled. Modern times furnish no example of individual rapine so grand as this seizure. It is more than the robbery of a realm. The pirate seizes a ship. The colonist and their coadjutors can satisfy themselves with nothing short of an empire. They have left their Anglo-Saxon ancestors behind them. Those barbarians conformed to the maxims of their age, to the rude code of nations in time of thick and heathen darkness. They invaded England under their sovereigns, and with the sanction of the gloomy religion of the North. But it is in a civilized age, and amidst refinements of manners; it is amidst the lights of science and the teachings of Christianity, amidst expositions of the law of nations and the maxims of universal justice, amidst the institutions of religion, learning, and humanity, that the robbery of Texas has found its instruments. It is from a free, well-ordered, enlightened Christian country, that hordes have gone forth in open day, to perpetrate this mighty wrong.

Let me now ask the United States—prepared to receive from these hands the gift of Texas? Is annexing it to this country, shall we not appropriate to ourselves the fruits of a rapine which we ought to have suppressed? We certainly should shrink from a proposition to receive a piratical state into our confederacy. And of whom does Texas consist? Very much of our own citizens, who have won it by valiant arms; and who, as the sovereign nation, which we owed protection against such assaults. Does it consist with national honor, with national virtue, to receive to our embrace men who have prospered by crimes which we were bound to reprobate and repress?

Had this country received its whole power from the lawlessness of its citizens; had these, notwithstanding such opposition, succeeded in extorting from Mexico a recognition of independence; and were their sovereignty acknowledged by other nations, we should stand acquitted, in the sight of the civilized world, of participating in their crime, were considerations of policy to determine us to receive them into our Union. Unhappily the United States have not discharged the obligation of a neutral State. They have suffered, by a culpable negligence, the violation of the Mexican territory by their citizens; and if now, in the midst of the contest, while Mexico is yet struggling, we receive her, we should be deemed to incorporate Texas with ourselves, they would involve themselves, before all nations, in the whole iniquity of the revolt. The United States have not been just to Mexico. Our citizens did not steal slyly, silently, in disguise into that land, but they thrust themselves upon Mexico, and attaching her distant province to this country, was not wrapt in mystery. It was proclaimed in our public prints. Expeditions were openly fitted out within our borders for the Texan war. Troops were organized, equipped, and marched for the scene of action. Advertisements for volunteers to be enrolled and sent to Texas, as at the expense of that territory, were inserted in our newspapers. The government, indeed, issued its proclamation, forbidding these hostile preparations; but this was a dead letter. Military companies, with officers and standards, in defiance of proclamations, and in the face of duty, directed their steps to the remote province. We collected an army near the frontiers of Mexico. Did it turn back these invaders of a land with which we were at peace? On the contrary, did not its presence give confidence to the revolvers? After this, what construction of our conduct shall we force on the world, we profess, especially on the Mexicans, who receive into their territory, which, through our neglect, has fallen a prey to lawless invasion? Are we willing to take our place among robbers? Have we no reverence for national morality? Have we no feeling of responsibility to other nations, and to Him by whom the fates of nations are disposed?

AGAINST ANNEXING TEXAS.—At a meeting of the citizens of New Bedford without distinction of party, at the Town Hall, Saturday evening, August 10, 1837, to take into consideration the annexation of Texas, ANDREW BARNES, Esq. was called to the Chair, and JOHN BARNES, Esq. appointed Secretary.

The following resolutions, says the New Bedford Gazette, were reported and unanimously adopted. Resolved, That we have witnessed with regret the expression of a determination in certain portions of the country to urge upon Congress, at its approaching session, the admission of Texas to the Union of these States.

Resolved, That apart from the connection which this question has with the Foreign Relations of the Government, (a connection which involves considerations of the gravest international character) we find the strongest reasons against its adoption in the internal condition of the country. We are opposed to this measure, because we believe that any further extension of our territorial limits, while it would bring with it no substantial advantages, to any portion of the country, would be an act of injustice towards the original States of the confederacy—because in the character of the people of Texas, we can discover nothing which would render the annexation of their territory to the Union a desirable acquisition—and because we believe that the admission of Texas would be an act of injustice to the people of the Union, by which it could be affected, is opposed to the true policy of the government, and hostile to the highest and best interests of humanity.

Resolved, That while we distinctly admit that the constitution confers upon Congress no control over the institutions of Slavery as it exists in the several States, and while we are resolved to abide by and uphold the provisions of that instrument, we feel bound to declare, that any extension of this great national evil by the action of Congress ought not to be permitted or countenanced by those who profess to attach any value to the union of the States.

Faded, on motion of Mr. French, that a Committee of ten be appointed to draft a memorial and obtain signatures thereto against the annexation of Texas.—Messrs John H. Clifford, Jeremiah H. Harris, Isaac C. Taber, Abraham Barker, George F. Hovey, Rodney French, Thomas A. Greene, Joseph Congdon, David R. Greene, were chosen.

## TEXAS MEETING.

From the Portland Oregon.

The meeting on Thursday last, to discuss the subject of admitting Texas into the union, was well attended. Addresses were made by Gen. Fessenden, Gen. Appleton, and John Neal. The two former gentlemen said that Texas, but that John Neal, who was the only speaker who was not a Texan, said that he had heard for many a day. The course of his argument was not to pursue, but hope it will appear in some of the papers of the city; though we doubt if Mr. Neal can sit down and write out any thing that will do justice to his own mind.

He uttered seemed to come freshly coined from his very heart and soul; and men who speak from intense excitement are seldom able to transfer their feelings to paper.

Mr. Neal, writing the above, we have seen Mr. Neal and requested an outline of his speech for our next paper. 'You shall have it,' was his reply. The following resolutions were passed without a dissenting voice:

Resolved, That the admission of Texas as an integral portion of this Confederacy is, in a National point of view, inexpedient, impolitic, and unjust; inasmuch as it can hardly fail to disturb our present peaceful relations with foreign governments, and is contrary to the clear understanding with which our national compact was agreed to.

Resolved, That the further extension of National territory, and directly to strengthen the divisions which already exist among us, and to place in peril the peace of the Union of the States.

Resolved, That the annexation of Texas, inasmuch as it will ultimately destroy the balance of power contemplated by the Constitution, and will widely enlarge the sphere and extend the influence of slavery in our Republic, is highly dangerous to the future safety and repose of the free states of this confederacy.

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to use their best exertions to prevent the annexation of Texas to these United States.

Resolved, That the proceedings of the meeting be signed by the Chairman and Secretaries, and published in the papers of the city, and that a copy be furnished to each of the Senators and Representatives in Congress from this State.

WILLIAM BRADLEY, Chairman.

ASHBEL CRAM, Secretaries.

JOHN APPLETON, Secretaries.

## ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

At a public meeting of the citizens of Medford, held on Wednesday evening, the 10th of August, 1837, agreeably to notice previously given, for the purpose of taking into consideration the subject of the annexation of Texas to the United States, which, from various public movements, seems likely soon to be attempted.—JAMES O. CURTIS was called to the chair, and JOHN A. BUTTRICK appointed Secretary.

The following resolutions were introduced and supported with sound arguments, by A. Bartlett, Esq. Resolved, That the people of the United States cannot permit the annexation of the territory of Texas to this Union before the acknowledged independence of its independence by the Mexican government, without becoming accessory to the original revolt of that province, and involving themselves in an offensive war.

Resolved, That if the independence of Texas was acknowledged, on the part of Mexico, and the character of its population were unexceptionable, still the annexation would be a violation of the integrity of the Union.

Resolved, That as a slaveholding country, the annexation of Texas should be resolutely opposed by every well-wisher to the perpetuity and happiness of the Union.

Resolved, That our forms of government impose upon every citizen the duty of ascertaining his civil rights, and of an unwearied watchfulness and activity in the preservation and exercise of them.

Resolved, That an impartial and independent assessment, as a condition of the annexation of Texas, be made by the citizens of public land measures, and among the indispensable means of maintaining free governments.

The acceptance of the resolutions was then moved by Rev. Mr. Stetson, and supported by him in an able and eloquent address, containing a brief sketch of the history and proceedings of the inhabitants of Texas, and a strong denunciation of the annexation of Texas to this Union, and a strong denunciation of the annexation of Texas to this Union, and a strong denunciation of the annexation of Texas to this Union.

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